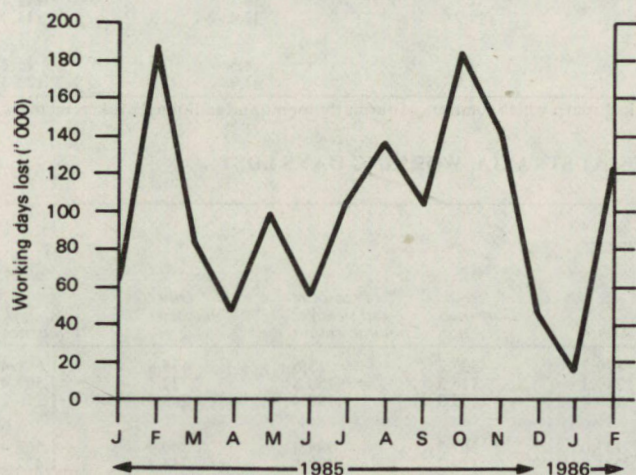




### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY 1986

- PHONE INQUIRIES** *for more information about these statistics*—contact Mr Michael Koukoulas on Canberra (062) 52 6561 or any of our State offices.  
*other inquiries including copies of publications*—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.
- MAIL INQUIRIES** *write to* Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.
- ON VIATEL** selected statistics from this publication are available on *VIATEL* \*656#.

#### MAIN FEATURES



In February 1986, 120,300 working days were lost by 47,900 workers in 161 disputes. The 1,143,000 working days lost in the 12 months ended February 1986 was the lowest for a 12 month period since the 12 months ended April 1969 when 1,074,400 working days were lost.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### Coverage

The statistics relate only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more at the establishments where the stoppages occurred.

2. The figures of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes (as defined in paragraph 4) and not to aggregate losses for the economy as a whole. Details shown in this publication refer to all disputes in progress during the reference period indicated.

3. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and government) and trade unions concerning individual disputes and from reports of government authorities. Particulars of some stoppages (for example, those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving only a broad measure of the extent of industrial disputes (as defined).

##### Definitions

4. For these statistics an *industrial dispute* is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.

5. *Workers involved* include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute.

6. Differences between monthly and annual totals of workers involved can occur due to temporary cessations of stoppages that resume in subsequent months. Workers re-involved in this type of dispute are included in the monthly totals.

7. *Working days lost* refer to man-days lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of workers involved and the duration of the dispute.

8. *Working days lost per 1,000 employees* have been compiled from those lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more in the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Working days lost in agriculture, etc. and in private households employing staff have been *excluded* from Tables 4 and 5 but *included* in Tables 1 to 3.

9. The estimates of employees are obtained from the Labour Force survey.

##### Other ABS publications

10. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

*Industrial Disputes, Australia* (6322.0)—issued annually, contains more detailed information including statistics on the cause, method of settlement and duration of industrial disputes.

*Labour Statistics, Australia, 1984* (6101.0) (\$4.50, \$6.50 incl. postage)

*The Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)—issued monthly (\$1.20, \$2.10 incl. postage)

11. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

##### Statistics on VIATEL

12. Selected economic, social and demographic statistics are available on *VIATEL* \*656#.

##### Symbols and other usages

r figure revised since last issue

13. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

IAN CASTLES  
Australian Statistician



TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost ('000)
	Commenced in period	Total(a)	Newly involved(b)	Total(a)	
1983	1,779	1,787	453.0	470.5	1,641.4
1984	1,958	1,965	553.1	562.3	1,307.4
1985	r1,829	r1,844	r551.5	r569.4	r1,256.2
Twelve months ended—					
February 1984	1,758	1,788	430.5	451.1	1,567.4
1985	1,992	2,011	587.1	590.3	1,422.1
1986	1,785	1,804	517.5	524.2	1,143.0
1985—					
March	148	167	42.1	48.7	84.5
April	105	123	24.6	29.3	46.4
May	134	153	64.8	70.3	98.4
June	134	156	28.5	34.7	57.3
July	205	229	54.2	60.3	109.8
August	176	210	72.2	96.4	136.3
September	171	192	38.3	60.7	103.3
October	205	225	r74.4	r82.3	184.2
November r	176	200	51.1	56.3	142.4
December	103	117	r29.2	r32.4	r45.0
1986—					
January r	77	84	6.3	8.5	15.2
February	151	161	31.9	47.9	120.3

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	Manufacturing							
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other	Construction	Transport and storage; Communication	Other industries (a)	All industries
	Coal	Other						
1983	122.8	194.7	157.6	120.7	337.2	213.6	494.8	1,641.4
1984	131.1	193.2	144.8	249.3	116.3	150.6	322.1	1,307.4
1985	r233.8	106.3	107.3	189.4	175.3	r180.4	263.7	r1,256.2
Twelve months ended—								
February 1984	113.5	188.4	141.8	137.0	307.3	139.0	540.4	1,567.4
1985	226.0	196.7	154.7	231.4	119.3	180.6	313.3	1,422.1
1986	213.4	96.0	92.9	182.3	170.3	154.1	234.0	1,143.0
1985—								
March	26.5	4.2	12.7	5.9	8.9	8.6	17.7	84.5
April	1.0	2.5	3.5	13.1	7.8	5.5	13.2	46.4
May	9.3	3.7	24.4	19.5	33.3	3.2	5.1	98.4
June	11.5	2.5	3.3	6.9	14.1	1.2	17.8	57.3
July	6.3	11.7	6.0	31.0	22.4	16.3	15.9	109.8
August	6.9	16.7	10.5	50.0	19.9	18.6	13.7	136.3
September	25.6	6.8	13.3	11.9	31.4	4.5	9.8	103.3
October	16.0	4.3	4.6	21.6	10.0	r27.2	100.5	184.2
November	7.1	32.9	5.6	14.9	10.3	r57.6	14.1	r142.4
December	r18.6	3.1	3.5	3.0	3.3	4.9	8.7	r45.0
1986—								
January	1.5	1.0	1.7	1.3	4.3	r2.8	2.6	r15.2
February	83.3	6.6	3.9	3.3	4.6	3.8	14.8	120.3

(a) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L.

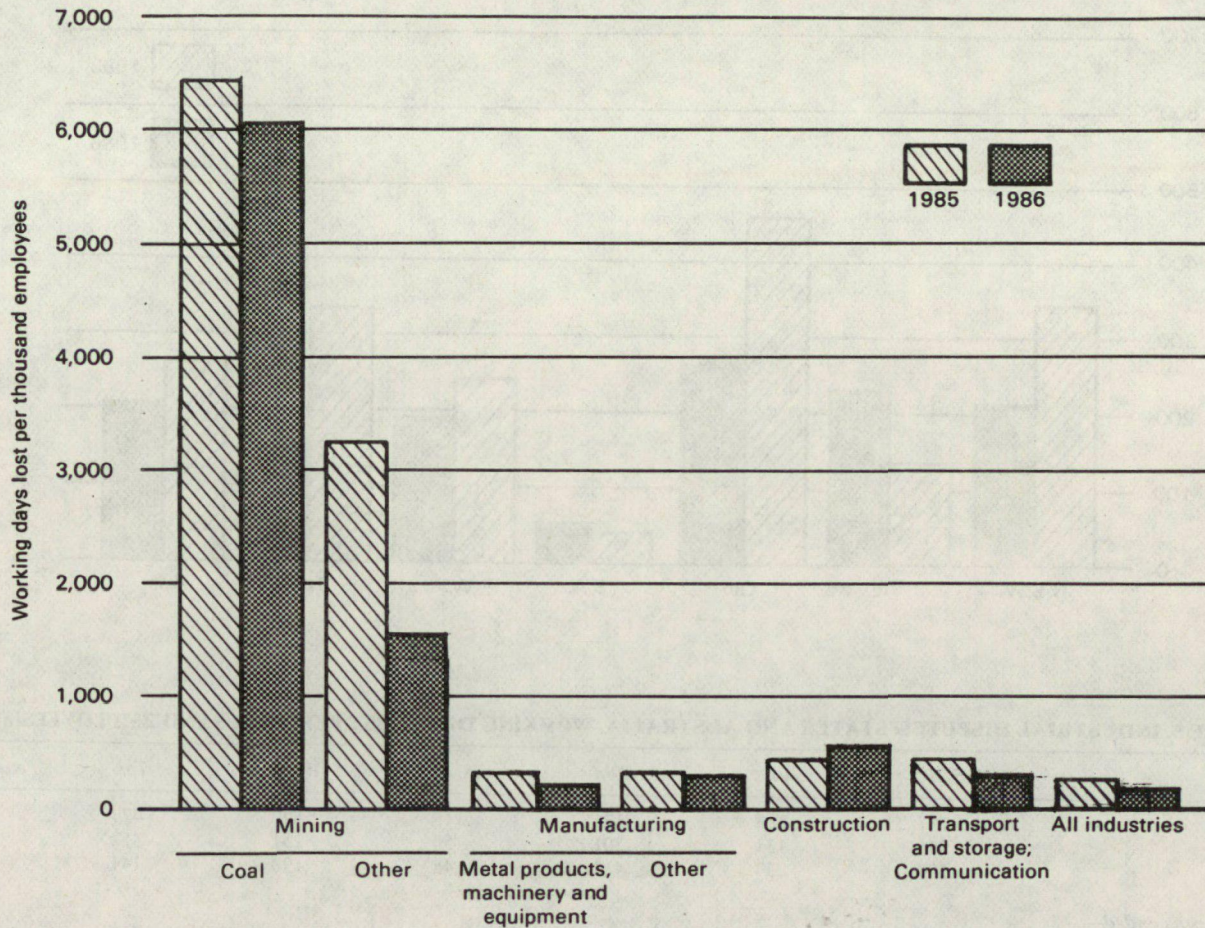
TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (a)
1983	801.2	257.7	135.0	87.7	270.6	67.8	1,641.4
1984	660.6	187.5	236.5	25.5	119.2	50.5	1,307.4
1985	r398.7	r355.9	336.2	22.5	92.9	20.6	r1,256.2
Twelve months ended—							
February 1984	747.9	241.1	130.4	91.6	264.0	70.2	1,567.4
1985	651.4	200.3	356.1	21.9	117.8	48.2	1,422.1
1986	408.9	343.9	220.6	23.7	92.4	22.5	1,143.0
1985—							
March	38.6	14.4	20.9	3.1	6.7	0.6	84.5
April	17.6	11.2	5.0	1.1	9.4	1.2	46.4
May	29.8	26.7	25.9	1.3	10.0	3.6	98.4
June	26.5	22.5	0.7	1.1	3.5	0.5	57.3
July	34.5	37.4	11.6	2.4	13.2	5.4	109.8
August	41.9	21.4	46.6	4.2	13.3	4.6	136.3
September	35.8	7.7	48.2	2.4	6.3	0.6	103.3
October	43.5	119.8	7.7	3.0	7.7	1.3	184.2
November	r30.3	64.3	29.3	0.9	11.8	0.8	r142.4
December	r22.9	6.9	3.7	1.7	3.2	1.4	r45.0
1986—							
January	5.7	r4.8	r1.1	0.7	1.7	0.8	r15.2
February	81.6	6.9	20.0	1.8	5.6	1.8	120.3

(a) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.



**CHART 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES  
TWELVE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 1985 AND 1986**



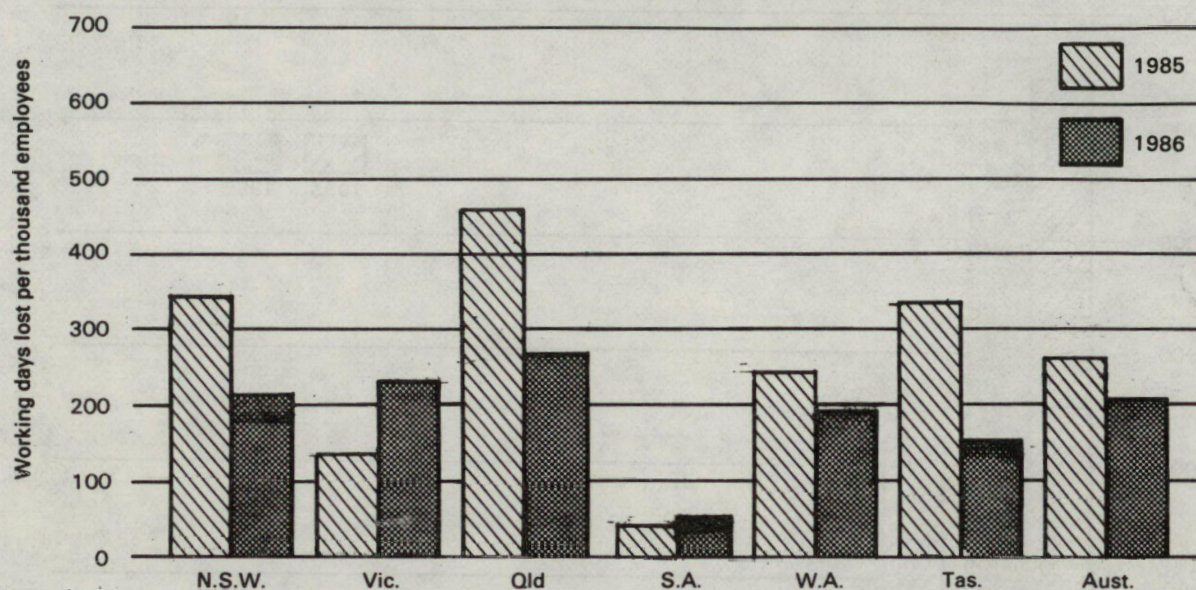
**TABLE 4. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES (a)**

Period	Mining		Manufacturing		Construction	Transport and storage; Communication	Other industries	All industries
	Coal	Other	Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other				
1983	3,223	3,375	353	186	1,269	485	42	249
1984	3,543	3,286	327	387	427	346	94	246
1985	6,739	1,723	242	296	580	404	75	230
Twelve months ended—								
February 1985	6,439	3,278	348	360	425	414	91	266
February 1986	6,030	1,507	210	285	558	343	66	208

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff.



**CHART 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 1985 AND 1986**



**TABLE 5. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)**

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.(b)
1983	287	163	176	115	577	478	249
1984	355	131	301	56	251	352	246
1985	209	239	417	48	190	144	230
<i>Twelve months ended—</i>							
February 1985	347	139	452	48	247	332	266
1986	213	230	270	51	187	156	208

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.